

learned the hard way in Iraq. So before this president makes any more rash decisions about going to war, I believe he must come to Congress for authorization to commence military action.

The bill I am introducing today—like its companion in the Senate—is intended to do one thing: to restore the balance between the executive and legislative branches with regard to authorizing large-scale military activities. It is a balance that needs restoring after the mismanagement of the war in Iraq, and it is a balance we should be watching closely as some in the Administration continue to discuss presidential authority to wage war in contravention of the Constitution.

COMMENDING AMPUTEES ACROSS AMERICA ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS AND MISSION TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF AMPUTEES AS PEOPLE WITH ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 19, 2007*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Amputees Across America for their achievements and mission to increase public awareness of amputees as people with active lifestyles.

Amputees Across America is a group of amputees cycling from coast-to-coast. The riders departed on May 28, 2007 from Tustin, California, and arrive in Alexandria, Louisiana on Monday, July 2. The group is riding in 150-mile relays, visiting hospitals and local amputee support groups. The group will complete their 3,500 mile journey when they arrive in Vero Beach, Florida on July 25, 2007.

While in Alexandria, Amputees Across America cyclists Joe Sapere, Abel Cruz, Clifford Clark, and Beasey Hendrix will visit with patients and members of a stroke and amputee support group to share stories of overcoming their amputations to live healthy, fulfilling lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the mission and achievements of Amputees Across America. I acknowledge their commendable mission and significant contribution to not only the state of Louisiana, but our nation as well.

RECALLING THE INFAMOUS ANNIVERSARY OF THE INVASION OF CYPRUS

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 19, 2007*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to recall the tragic anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

On July 20, 1974, Turkey brutally attacked the Republic of Cyprus. To my deep regret, the shameful legacy of this despicable act remains. To this day, Turkish troops illegally occupy Cyprus, splitting the island into two areas, and continuing the oppression of the people of Cyprus which has remained since that infamous day.

Reminiscent of the infamous Berlin Wall, Cyprus has remained divided by “the green line,” a 113-mile barbed-wire fence that has run across the island for the past 33-years. Despite pressure from the United States, the European Union, and the United Nations, Cyprus remains one of the most militarized areas in the world.

Although Cyprus remains divided, there is reason for optimism that the nation will one day be made whole. In late April of 2004, the people of Cyprus went to the polls to vote on a plan of reunification. Unfortunately, this reunification proposal was rushed, allegedly to coincide with the ascension of Cyprus into the European Union. Because of many legitimate concerns, including security, and in a demonstration of great courage and independence, approximately 75 percent of Greek Cypriots opposed the plan. However, this rushed and unfortunate effort must not, and will not, be the end of attempts to reunify the island. A lasting and equitable solution for the people of Cyprus, and the goal of a united Cyprus, is too important to abandon.

I firmly support the efforts begun with the bicommunal agreement reached at the meeting of July 8, 2006. The framework of July 8 established guiding principles to accomplish the goal reunifying the two halves of Cyprus within a bizonal, bicommunal federation. I urge both parties to proceed with establishing working groups so that there can be movement forward in implementing these principles. The remarkable achievement of the July 8 agreement gives me great reason to be hopeful that a solution is near. Yet so long as Cyprus remains divided, we have great work ahead of us.

I remain committed to achieving a solution to this problem so that we never have to gather again to commemorate an anniversary of this condemnable invasion. Madam Speaker, I pray that this will be the last year of a divided Cyprus. It is my fervent hope that, 33 years after Cyprus was torn asunder, all Cypriots can be reunited, living in peace and freedom forever.

APPROVAL OF THE “MEN OF MIKE” RESOLUTION

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 19, 2007*

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise to applaud today's passage of H. Res. 541 by unanimous consent to recognize the Marines of Company “M,” or “Mike Company,” on the occasion of their 25th annual reunion. I am proud that men in my home State of Nebraska served in this distinguished unit.

In fact, former Marine Commandant General Chuck Krulak and General Tom Draude served together in Vietnam in this unit. The U.S. Marine Corps told me that during General Krulak's tenure as CMC, he often took the opportunity in speeches to extol the heroism of fellow Marines from Mike Company—in particular Tom Draude, a former Commander of M/3/7 who was awarded the Silver Star for heroism in a 1966 action.

The Marines of Mike Company served honorably and heroically in the Vietnam war from July 1965 to October 1970. Their service in

defense of freedom, liberty and political self determination for the South Vietnamese people earned the unit numerous citations and commendations for valor, including:

The Presidential Unit Citation Streamer with 2 Bronze Stars;

Navy Unit Commendation Streamer; Meritorious Unit Commendation Streamer with 2 Bronze Stars;

National Defense Service Streamer;

Vietnam Service Streamer with 2 Silver Stars and 3 Bronze Stars;

Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Streamer; and

The Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Civil Actions Streamer.

The Men of Mike Company were the subject of a 1968 documentary entitled “A Face of War,” which accurately portrayed the sights and sounds of Marines performing their duties in a combat zone. My constituent, retired Captain James Sackett, appeared in the film as part of the Mike Company “Band of Brothers” who displayed their courage under fire on behalf of all U.S. Marines.

The Marines of Mike Company, along with their loved ones, have held a reunion every year since 1983. They have formed the Mike 3/7 Vietnam Association to honor the memories of their fallen comrades; celebrate the lives of their surviving comrades; express profound appreciation to their families and loved ones; recognize the monumental sacrifices and achievements necessary for freedom; and to hold forth their contribution to the Marine Corps legacy of courage, patriotism and military excellence as an example to future generations.

Americans everywhere owe a debt of gratitude to the Marines of Mike Company for their selfless dedication to duty and their admirable display of courage under fire. The U.S. House of Representatives is proud to honor their sacrifices on the occasion of their 25th annual reunion.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 2337

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 19, 2007*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, in recent weeks, I have witnessed the lengths to which the oil and gas industry will go to frighten my colleagues about the contents of H.R. 2337, the energy legislation approved last month by the House Natural Resources Committee. The tales they weave would make good fodder for a Stephen King novel.

I have heard arguments of all kinds—that the bill will cause oil and gas prices to increase, that it will harm energy supplies, and even that it will cost American jobs. Falsehoods such as these, while creative, are simply unfounded.

I have seen no data to substantiate these claims or to show how the mild provisions of Titles I and II in my bill will result in such ill effects. And, I might add, what these detractors always conveniently fail to reveal is that the Energy Policy Act of 2005 provided zip in the way of lower prices.

Let me take this opportunity to give you a little insight into what is really behind this smear campaign.